

REMARKS

Prior to issuance, Applicants request entry of the above amendments to claims 1 and 8. The specification as filed is clear in describing that a His tag was used in the recombinant production of CT875 (e.g., Example 4) and it would be unambiguous to the skilled artisan upon examination of SEQ ID NO: 140 that the His tag is present at amino acids residues 1-7 of SEQ ID NO: 140. As it would be well understood that the His tag included in SEQ ID NO: 140 is for ease of purification, but is not necessary or important for practice of the claimed method for stimulating an immune response, claim 1 has been amended by removing reference to the His tag portion of SEQ ID NO: 140. In addition, claims 1 has been amended, for consistency with claim 8, such that the claimed polypeptide is a polypeptide "comprising an amino acid sequence" having at least 98% identity to the claimed polypeptide. Claim 8, as allowed, specifies that the claimed composition "comprises SEQ ID NO: 140." Accordingly, the amendment to claim 1 merely includes language with respect to the claimed polypeptide similar to that already allowed in claim 8. Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments raise no new issues for substantive consideration and request entry of the amendments prior to issuance of the subject application.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned with any questions, comments and/or recommendations regarding this matter.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,

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